

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Shuichi HIRATA et al. Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned
Appl. No. : 10/596,218 Examiner : Not Yet Assigned
(National Stage of PCT/JP2005/016376)
Filed : June 5, 2006 Confirmation No. : 3667
For : METHOD OF CONTROLLING CONTACT LOAD IN ELECTRONIC
COMPONENT MOUNTING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,
Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner the following information.

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report with
respect to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2005/016376, of which the
present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. A copy of the International
Search Report has been filed concurrently with the present application and should thus
have already been brought to the attention of the Examiner.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 6,445,201 to SIMIZU et al. which issued on September 3,
2002; and
- (2) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2003-008196, together with
an English language Abstract of the same. Applicants note that this

document is cited on page 4 of the specification of the above-captioned application.

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the international claims by the International Examiner, is set forth in the International Search Report.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), a copy of the U.S. patent is not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. A copy of the above-noted foreign document, including the noted English language Abstract, is attached hereto, and all of the documents are listed on an attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

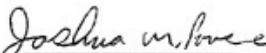
Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus, no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Shuichi HIRATA et al.

August 30, 2006
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, Virginia 20191
(703) 716-1191

Joshua M. Povsner
Reg. #42,086


Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

atty. Docket No.
29986

Application No.
10/596,218

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**

Applicant
Shuichi HIRATA et al

Filing Date
June 5, 2006

Group
Not Yet Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

1	English Language Abstract of JP 2003-008196.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.